

Fair tonight and tomorrow; variable winds.

The Washington Times.

Interest in Times News
Means Interest in Times Ads

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WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1903.

PRICE ONE CENT.

MACHEN CHARGES WITH GRAND JURY

Examination Expected to Continue Until Tomorrow.

GREAT SECRECY PREVAILS

Case Was Presented by Assistant District Attorney Taggart—Witnesses Are Postoffice Inspectors.

The Federal grand jury of the District of Columbia this morning took up the case of August W. Machen, former superintendent of free delivery of the Postoffice Department, charged with bribery in connection with the purchase of patent mail box fasteners from Groff Bros., of Washington.

The case was presented by Assistant District Attorney Taggart, the witnesses for the most part being Postoffice inspectors, who have been working up the evidence against Machen for the past four weeks. The greatest secrecy is being observed in the matter, not even the names of the witnesses being given out by the District Attorney's office.

May Delay Preliminary Hearing. As rapidly as possible the hearing will be pushed to a conclusion, but it is not thought likely an indictment will be reached today.

On this account, the preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner Taylor, which is set for tomorrow morning, will probably be postponed.

Mr. Payne Not a Witness.

No news about the investigation was given out by Postmaster General Payne this morning. Mr. Payne has not been subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury, and it is thought he will not be.

Met at 11 o'clock. The jury assembled at 11 o'clock. At that time several Postoffice inspectors and other persons summoned as witnesses were at the City Hall in consultation with Mr. Taggart.

It is learned from good authority that the first witness called before the jury was Edgar E. McBath, chief of the pay division in the auditor's office of the Postoffice Department. It is believed that Postoffice Inspector Mayer will be called to testify when Mr. McBath concludes his evidence.

A Phonographic Report.

In order to expedite matters and conclude the investigation as early as a date as possible, Assistant District Attorney Jesse Adkins is making a phonographic report of the testimony.

When the jury convened the Assistant District Attorney briefly outlined the charges against Mr. Machen. The jury then went to work immediately.

Machen's Supposed Defense. It is reported that Mr. Machen's defense will be that he was a silent partner in the firm of Groff Bros., the firm which is alleged to have paid him to grant contracts for letter box fasteners. Many interesting points will be raised if the claim of partnership is advanced. Discussing this rumored defense Postmaster General Payne said such a claim would result in prosecution for perjury, as the Revised Statutes prohibit Government officials from granting contracts to themselves.

Coal Contracts Involved.

Friends of Machen reply to this argument by saying that he authorized H. H. Rand to enter into a contract with Machen Brothers for coal for the Postoffice Department last fall. When the legality of this contract was questioned an opinion, approved by the Attorney General, was secured which supported the Machen coal contract.

It is maintained that this coal decision was obtained by friends of Machen for the purpose of meeting emergencies, and in that light the publication of the opinion by Postmaster General Payne—as is set forth in another column—has an especial interest.

Efforts have been made by Government officials to locate property belonging to Machen for the purpose of attaching it under the civil suit brought to recover the money which Machen is alleged to have taken from the Government. So far the officials have been unable to find any property in Machen's name. He is believed, however, to have sufficient funds to make a strong defense.

WEATHER REPORT.

Temperatures are lower in New England and somewhat higher in the Middle, South Atlantic, and Gulf States, and Ohio Valley. There will be showers tonight in the East Gulf and South Atlantic States, continuing tomorrow in the latter district. In the Ohio Valley, lower lake region, and Middle Atlantic States the weather will be generally fair.

It will be warmer tomorrow in the lower lake region, Ohio Valley, and East Gulf States.

TEMPERATURE.
9 a. m. 71
12 m. 81
1 p. m. 82

THE SUN.
Sun sets today.....7:32 p. m.
Sun rises tomorrow.....4:24 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.
High tide today.....3:39 p. m.
High tide tomorrow.....4:11 a. m., 4:42 p. m.
Low tide tomorrow.....10:56 a. m., 11:05 p. m.

ST. LOUIS ALARMED OVER RISING RIVER

Two Hundred Persons Already Driven From Homes in Venice Bottoms---Kansas City Conditions Improved.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 4.—The river at St. Louis stood at 32.3 feet, 3.2 feet above the danger mark, at 10 o'clock this morning, a rise of nearly one foot in twenty-four hours.

The levee from Franklin Avenue to the Eads Bridge is under water, and the water has worked its way up Morgan Street for nearly half a block. The Wabash tracks along that portion of the levee are under two feet of water. Cellars of business houses and boarding houses along the levee are filling rapidly. The situation in Carondelet remains practically unchanged, but the water is a few inches higher than on Wednesday.

Venice is suffering a partial inundation, and a great sea stretches from that little city to East St. Louis. Throughout East St. Louis, Venice, Granite City, and Madison, hundreds of men are at work on the levees, building them up, and strengthening them. It is estimated that 200 persons have been driven from their homes in the Venice bottoms. Many people have taken refuge in tents and box cars.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 4.—Fires were started under the boilers in the Turkey Creek pumping station this morning, and before the day is over it is believed that water will be pumped into one of the city's reservoirs, thus beginning the work of flushing the choked sewers.

The Missouri River stood at 32.9 feet at 6:45 a. m., a drop of eighteen inches in twenty-four hours. The weather observer believes this rate of subsidence will continue.

Water still covers practically all the district originally flooded, but already men can wade through Union Avenue and through the depot.

Thousands of men went into the business houses in the bottoms and into the stock yards today and are getting things ready for resumption of business, which will start with a rush.

GENERAL ARMY STAFF

Assigned to Places

War Department Order Goes Into Effect August 15.

CHANGES MAY BE MADE

Col. Kerr, Lieut. Col. Simpson, Major Mann, and Lieut. Col. McCain Go to Insular Departments.

The War Department today announced the provisional assignment of officers of the general staff to territorial headquarters, to take effect August 15 next, subject to any changes and modifications which may be made prior to that date.

The following are the assignments: Department of California—Major William P. Duvall, Artillery Corps, and Capt. Frank McIntyre, Nineteenth Infantry.

Department of Colorado—Lieut. Col. James T. Kerr, adjutant's department, and Capt. Charles D. Rhodes, Sixth Cavalry.

Department of Columbia—Major Sedgewick Pratt, Artillery Corps, and Capt. David DuB. Gaillard, Corps of Engineers.

Department of Dakota, Major James A. Irons, United States Infantry, inspector general, and Capt. Dennis E. Nolan, Third Infantry.

Department of the East, Col. Thomas H. Barry, adjutant general's department, Capt. Frank DeW. Ramsay, Ninth Infantry, and Capt. William G. Haan, Artillery Corps.

Department of the Lakes, Major John G. D. Knight, corps of engineers, and Capt. Charles T. Menaher, Artillery Corps.

Department of Texas, Lieut. Col. Fred Smith, United States Infantry, inspector general, and Capt. Peyton C. March, Artillery Corps.

Division of the Philippines, Col. James B. Kerr, Twelfth Cavalry, and Capt. William W. Gibson, ordnance department.

Department of Luzon—Lieut. Col. William A. Simpson, adjutant general's department, and Capt. William C. Rivers, First Cavalry.

Department of Visayas—Major William A. Mann, Fourteenth Infantry.

Department of Mindanao—Lieut. Col. Henry P. McCain, adjutant general's department, and Capt. R. E. L. Michel, Twelfth Cavalry.

MARITIME LIBEL SUITS AGAINST TWO STEAMERS

Compensation Asked for Services at Recent River Front Fire.

The Columbia National Sand Dredging Company and Frank V. Kintz, master of the steam towboat *Eugenia*, have filed two suits in maritime libel in the District Supreme Court, one against the steamer *Charles Maclester* and the other against the steamer *Newport News*.

The litigation is the outgrowth of the fire which occurred on May 13, and resulted in the burning of the steamer *Columbia* of the Washington and Alexandria ferry line.

The petitioners ask compensation for services performed in removing the steamers *Maclester* and *Newport News* from dangerous proximity to the fire.

POPE LEO'S CONDITION ALARMS HIS PHYSICIANS

ROME, June 4.—The condition of the Pope took a more disquieting turn today, when his holiness had a severe attack of intestinal trouble.

The doctors say they have no fear of complications, but the danger lies in the advanced age of the prelate. In many quarters the recurring attacks of weakness to which the Pope has been subjected lately have given rise to a fear that he is gradually declining. It is thought that the conspiracy, which has already been postponed on account of the Pontiff's condition, cannot be held for some days to come.

ROOSEVELT AND HANNA INDORSED

Foraker Also Commended by Ohio Convention.

COL. HERRICK NOMINATED

Cox's Candidate, Warren Harding, Selected for Lieutenant Governor by Acclamation.

CONVENTION HALL, Columbus, Ohio, June 4.—The nominating session of the Republican State convention was called to order by Chairman Hanna, at 10:20 o'clock this morning.

Colonel Dick, chairman of the committee on resolutions, presented the committee's report, in part, as follows: "We commend President Roosevelt's fidelity to duty, his adherence to President McKinley's policies, and his own proved ability in high office as showing him in every way worthy of election by the people to be their Chief Magistrate. We favor his nomination for President in 1904."

"The Ohio Republican delegation in Congress has honored the State in both houses. Senators Hanna and Foraker have splendidly maintained Ohio's leadership. The re-election of Senator Hanna is a distinct national demand upon our State and we cordially promise him the undivided support of the entire Republican party of Ohio."

Col. Myron T. Herrick was nominated for governor by acclamation. Capt. M. M. Boothman, of Williams county, for a short time on the Hanna slate for lieutenant governor, responded to the call for nominations for lieutenant governor, and presented the name of Warren Harding, of Marion. He was nominated by acclamation.

These replies were not satisfactory to the officers of the league, who feel there should be no delay in disinfecting the cells and corridors of the jail, and making it as clean as it is possible for such a poorly constructed building to be.

Prisoners are locked every day in the unsanitary cells and the Woman's Rescue League is unwilling that the unfortunate shall suffer while District officials are trying to determine who is responsible for the condition of the court building.

The Department of Justice will probably be appealed to before a complaint

PUBLIC WELCOME FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

To Be Met at Station by Officials and Citizens—Escort to White House. High School Cadets to Form Guard of Honor.

President Roosevelt, on his return to Washington tomorrow evening, will have a homecoming which will fitly bring to an end his long tour through the Western part of the country. It will not be an elaborate reception, but in the nature of a spontaneous outpouring of popular good will.

The District Board and other prominent citizens will assemble at the station to greet the President as he alights from the train. Mr. Roosevelt will be informed that the impromptu reception awaits him. Instead of the usual quiet departure from the station to a carriage and the rapid dash up the Avenue, he will be escorted to the carriage by a proper committee. The President and a few others will ride behind the High School Cadets to the Presidential Mansion.

Predecessor Similarly Honored. Commissioner Macfarland called attention to the fact that a similar reception was given President McKinley when he returned from his Western tour a few months before his untimely death in Buffalo. He thought it was proper to show the same respect in the same way to his successor.

It is the wish of the Commissioners that the people will turn out in large numbers to welcome the President. The train will reach Washington about 7 o'clock, and the time is propitious. The

authorities would be glad to see thousands lining the Avenue, and giving expression to their greetings in true American fashion, by shouts, clapping of hands, and the waving of flags.

It is believed the reception along these lines will give the President more pleasure than anything that has happened upon his 20,000-mile tour.

Suggested to Mr. West. The matter of giving the President a welcome home was suggested yesterday afternoon to Commissioner West. He at once recognized the appropriateness of such a demonstration, and went immediately to work to carry it into execution.

Commissioner West thought the reception should be simply a gathering of the people along Pennsylvania Avenue to attest their greeting to Mr. Roosevelt should ride to the White House. The question of an escort was discussed briefly, but the conclusion reached was that any military display would not be pleasing to Mr. Roosevelt.

The idea was suggested, however, by Mr. West that owing to the President's well-known love for boys, it would be well to have the High School cadets act as his escort from the station to the White House. The matter was laid before the Board of Education last night, and the military committee was directed to make arrangements to have the cadets in line tomorrow evening for the purpose named. The necessary orders will be issued today.

Commissioner Macfarland, who returned to his office today after a week's absence, heartily seconded the suggestions made by his colleague, and entered into the arrangements with zest this morning. A Board session on the subject resulted in the perfecting a general plan for the reception.

JACKSON, Ky., June 4.—The joint trial of Jett and White, the former as principal and the latter as accessory, in the assassination of J. B. Marcum, will begin Monday. Yesterday afternoon Judge Redwine set this date, after hearing several motions by Mr. French for the defense.

In the interim, a jury will be selected from another county, within a day's ride of Jackson. Many believe this county will be Magoffin, which adjoins Breathitt on the northeast. French's contention was that a continuance should be given and no definite date for the trials be set. In support of this he advanced two reasons, one of which was that John B. O'Neal, of Covington, who is associated with him in the defense of the prisoners, is absent, and the defense has no definite knowledge when he will return.

The other affidavit disclosed the identity of the missing witness by whom the defense says it will prove that it could not have been Jett who fired the shot that killed Marcum. This witness is E. J. Noble, deputy sheriff, who, it is said, left Jackson shortly before the arrival of the troops and whose present whereabouts is unknown.

SECOND FIRE AT ETON. LONDON, June 4.—Fire broke out yesterday morning in one of the buildings at Eton College. Ever since Monday's fire, when two boys were burned in a blaze which destroyed one of the master's houses, the college authorities have exerted even more vigilance than before, and this morning's fire was extinguished before it had obtained any headway.

EX-SENATOR COBB DEAD. EAST LAS VEGAS, N. M., June 4.—Judge James Cobb, of Alabama, for many years, United States Senator, died here yesterday.

DENSE CLOUDS OF SMOKE HANG OVER NEW ENGLAND

PRESIDENT TO HEAR OF DIRTY BUILDING

Replies of District Officials to Complaints Regarding Condition of Police Court Unsatisfactory—Woman's Rescue League to Appeal.

Unless steps be taken at once to clean and disinfect the District Police Court the Woman's Rescue League will bring the unsanitary condition of the building to the attention of the President.

Charlotte Smith, president of the Woman's Rescue League, wrote to the Health Officer, Dr. W. C. Woodward, and the District Commissioners concerning the filthy condition of the building.

She received a letter from Dr. Woodward stating he had referred the matter to the Commissioners, and that he would inspect the court building at their request. The Commissioners wrote that they received the league's protest and will consider it.

These replies were not satisfactory to the officers of the league, who feel there should be no delay in disinfecting the cells and corridors of the jail, and making it as clean as it is possible for such a poorly constructed building to be.

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is addressed to the President, and if the officials of that department do not see fit to guard the health of District prisoners against disease the women will appeal to the President.

Dr. Woodward's reply to Miss Smith was as follows: "I have to acknowledge the receipt of your recent communication relative to the condition of the Police Court. I have referred it to Commissioner Macfarland for consideration, and will be guided by such instructions as he may issue."

"While legally the Health Department may be authorized to investigate the sanitary condition of buildings under jurisdiction of co-ordinate branches of the District government, it has been deemed inexpedient for it to do so, except under instructions from the Commissioners, or with the consent of the department whose jurisdiction would be affected by such action."

The following reply was sent from the Commissioners' office. "The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have received and will give due consideration to your letter of the 25th ult., inclosing copy of resolution in reference to the Police Court building. Very respectfully, WILLIAM TINDALL, Secretary."

DISTRICT MEN FOR LOCAL OFFICES

Simon Wolf Says Home Rule Ought to Prevail.

MANY OUTSIDERS CHOSEN

Their Fitness Not Questioned, But Taxpayers Have a Right to Be Represented in Appointments.

"Is it not about time that Maryland politicians care for their people in their own State and allow the residents of the District of Columbia to select a few of their own officials? When a successor to Justice Hagner is appointed I hope the Administration will consider District men. There are many residents of the District who are worthy of a place on the District Supreme bench, and they should not be overlooked."

Such was the opinion of the Hon. Simon Wolf, expressed this morning in a discussion of the appointment of a Maryland man to be deputy Recorder of Deeds for the District.

"I have no fault to find with men from the States who have been named to District positions, and do not care to offer criticism upon present officials, but just as capable men could have been found in the District."

"In all local offices District men ought to be preferred, especially such local offices as that of the Recorder of Deeds and the Register of Wills. There is a principle at stake, and residents of the District are tired of being overrun by outsiders. District people pay the salaries of these officials and should have a voice in their selection."

JETT AND WHITE TO BE TRIED NEXT MONDAY

Plea for Further Continuance Overruled at Jackson.

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THE PROTOCOL PUBLISHED. LONDON, June 4.—The text of the protocol between Great Britain and Venezuela relative to the former's claims against the latter, was published here this morning.

Entire State of New Hampshire Is Darkened, Making it Difficult to Work or Read Without Artificial Light.

Fierce Forest Fires Sweep the Timberlands, and Villagers, Alarmed for Their Homes, Are Ready to Move Away.

Serious Conditions in Adirondacks, and Fall of Ashes in Massachusetts—Even Greater New York Enveloped.

NASHUA, N. H., June 4.—The entire State of New Hampshire is darkened with a pall of smoke from the forest fires in the north. So dense is it that the sun is entirely obscured, and it is with difficulty that one can work or read without artificial light.

The forests of Coos county have been swept away, and villagers are much alarmed for their homes. At Groveton, people packed their belongings yesterday and are ready to move away. The city of Berlin is entirely surrounded by flames which swept up the Ammonoosuc Valley.

Farm Houses Destroyed. In Meredith, Grafton county, the forest fires are raging and two farm houses have been destroyed. In Ashland so dense is the smoke that large quantities of leaves have fallen from the trees. In Carroll county vast quantities of timber and cut lumber have been burned. In this city, eighty miles away, ashes are falling in the streets.

A family near West Milan was driven from home by the flames about midnight. At Littleton the fire department kept roofs in the business section wet, the air being filled with flying embers. The summer home of J. J. Glessner, a Chicago millionaire, at Bethlehem, barely escaped destruction. The Washington house is threatened and a large number of men are fighting the flames. The southern portion of the State is covered with a dense cloud of smoke which recalls "Yellow Day," of years ago.

SERIOUS CONDITIONS IN THE ADIRONDACKS

GLENS FALLS, N. Y., June 4.—Adirondack fire conditions are again most serious. Representatives of Finch, Pruyn & Co. wire that fires have broken out in the Cedar River region, and that the worst is feared.

The Catlin Lake region is also ablaze, and a big fire is raging near Long Lake. A heavy west wind carries smoke and ashes from the Catamount Range, near Lake George, to this village, twenty-five miles distant. The surface of the lake is literally covered with ashes for a dozen miles.

SMOKE OBSCURES THE SUN IN MASSACHUSETTS

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., June 4.—Smoke from forest fires in eastern Massachusetts completely obscured the sun today in this vicinity. A slight fall of ashes also occurred.

TIMBERLANDS BURNED IN NEW BRUNSWICK

ST. JOHN, N. B., June 4.—Forest fires in different sections of New Brunswick burned three big saw mills, the villages Briggs' Corner, Bonny River, and Musquash, about seventy houses in all, making 300 people homeless. The people lost practically all they possessed. Thousands of acres of valuable timberlands have been destroyed.

The fires are the worst in the history of the province. Four bridges on the New Brunswick Southern Railway, owned by Russell Sage, were burned; also highway bridges, and the Hon. A. T. Dunn's pork packing establishment at Musquash.

At Stanley there is fear that if the wind holds the settlement will be wiped out.

NEW YORK ENVELOPED BY HAZE AND SMOKE

NEW YORK, June 4.—Greater New York and the vicinity is enveloped today in a yellowish atmosphere of haze and smoke.

When Gothamites arose this morning the air was so thick that many thought the much-longed-for rainstorm was at hand.

The weather bureau, however, dispelled this hope by announcing that the thick atmosphere was caused by the combination of a slight haze and a large volume of smoke blown over the city from the terrific fires which are today raging through the forests of New England and northeastern New York.

MACFARLAND RETURNS FROM MOHONK MEETING

Commissioner Macfarland returned to his desk this morning from the ninth international arbitration conference at Mohonk Lake, N. Y., having stopped in New York and Philadelphia for a day or two on the way home. He found the arbitration conference interesting and inspiring.